JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord-Carlisle School Committee Concord School Committee Zoom Meeting August 18, 2020

Present: Wallace Johnston, Chair, CCSC; CSC

Sara Wilson, Vice Chair, CCSC

Courtland Booth, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC

Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC Alexa Anderson, CSC; CCSC

Absent: Heather Bout, Chair, CSC; CCSC

Eva Mostoufi, CCSC

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD

Jared Stanton, Director of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Johnston called the CCSC meeting to order at 5:01 PM, noting that it was being recorded. Mr. Booth then brought the CSC to order. Roll call attendance was taken: Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye; Booth, aye; Johnston, aye; Anderson, aye.

## PUBLIC HEARING ON CPS & CCRSD BUDGETS FY21

A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, to open the Public Hearing on the CPS and CCRSD budgets FY21. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Booth, aye (for both); Johnson, aye (for both).

**CPS** - Mr. Stanton stated that the CPS FY21 new budget is \$40,777,193. Mr. Stanton reviewed the budget against the previously approved FY21 budget and the FY20 budget. He reviewed budget drivers, cost savings, FTE's, grant/revolving account salary offsets, special education tuitions, and budgets by building location. There were no public questions or comments. Mr. Stanton stated that the presentation will be available by the next morning under Budget Information on the District Website.

**CCRSD** - Mr. Stanton stated that the CCRSD FY21 new budget is \$34,958,922. Mr. Stanton reviewed the budget against the previously approved FY21 budget and the FY20 budget. He reviewed budget drivers, cost savings, FTE's, grant/revolving account salary offsets, special education tuitions, estimated revenue, and assessments. Mr. Booth questioned if the CARES Act was an FY21 requirement and Mr. Stanton confirmed, noting that all funds need to be expended by December 30th. There were no public questions or comments.

A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, to close the Public Hearing on the CPS & CCRSD Budgets FY21. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Johnston, aye (for both) and the Public Hearing closed at 5:30 PM.

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, to reopen the CSC and CCSC meeting. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Booth, aye (for both); Johnston, aye (for both).

# II. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Carol Yelle, 44 Cross Street, Carlisle MA, Co-President of CPS and CCRSD SEPAC. Ms. Yelle read a statement from the SEPAC Board that had been submitted to the SC, asking the SC to investigate and provide public comment on the timeline waiver used by CPS and CCRSD during the spring 2020 COVID school closure. Dr. Hunter noted that she had provided the information to the Mosquito newspaper.

## III. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Johnston stated that he received 12 emails on school reopening plans and Mr. Booth stated that he received 6 regarding reopening, 1 from Dee Ortner notifying the SC that she will be the FINCOM liaison to the SC and 1 email from David Model notifying the SC that he will be the Concord Board of Selectman's Carlisle SC liaison.

### IV. CHAIRS & LIAISONS REPORT

Mr. Booth stated that the Policy Subcommittee met last week and reviewed COVID related policies. He stated that the citizens group 2Volunteer, which supports CCHS, is fully onboard with supporting the high school with opportunities, thanking them for mobilizing and supporting the high school. Mr. Booth stated that the Community and Adult Education course catalog was released this week, noting that the classes are almost fully virtual.

Mr. Johnston stated that the chairs of the CSC, the Town Managers, Select Board and FINCOMs of Concord and Carlisle met to discuss the current situation and what each town is doing relative to schools and municipally. He stated that it was a good conversation, noting that they discussed doing this on a more regular basis going forward.

### V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Within Reports for Discussion.

## VI. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Fall 2020 Reopening/Task Force Updates. Dr. Hunter stated that the HVAC consultant will be providing a high level summary of findings and efforts to respond. She stated that she will be reviewing illness protocols, METRICS of current virus data and a follow up to COVID testing and options. HVAC Consultant, Kailash, Viswanathan, provided an overview on the ventilation systems readiness report for all of the buildings in the District. He stated that Peabody and Sanborn are slightly older than the other buildings in the District, noting that the systems are older but are still working. Mr. Viswanathan recommended installing HEPA air purifiers at Peabody and Ripley. He stated that Willard's system is excellent and that the windows should not be open because it would have an adverse effect on the HVAC system. Mr. Viswanathan also shared recommendations on medical waiting rooms.

Dr. Hunter reviewed the protocols for positive COVID cases and the daily symptom screener for students and staff, sharing DESE's guidance to inform closure base on average daily cases per 100,000. Dr. Hunter stated that any decisions made would be in conjunction with the public health nurses, The Board of Health and DESE as well. Susan Rask, Concord Health Director, noted that the current public heath indicators are very favorable, urging people to continue to social distance and not be complacent. Ms. Rask noted that there will be a dashboard posted every Wednesday with updated information each week.

Dr. Hunter stated that she followed up with the Broad Institute and Emerson Hospital regarding COVID testing and shared the information both provided, as well as an optional pool testing. She noted that there is support among the staff for testing. Dr. Hunter noted her frustration that this conversation is occurring at the local level and not the state level. The SC discussed moment in time testing that would provide a baseline. Dr. Hunter noted that if there are symptomatic students, they can get quick results through Emerson. Dr. Hunter stated that she would follow up on the spit pilot testing. The SC agreed to discuss this further at Friday's meeting, have some further discussion on specifics with school reopening and also move the policy vote to Friday.

## VII. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Vote to Approve Policies: File: EBC Supplemental, File: EBCFA Face Coverings, File: IHBHE Remote Learning, File: IHBHE-E Remote Learning Addendum. *Vote moved to 8.21.20.*
- B. Vote to Approve Hybrid Reopening Plan. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for CSC, seconded by Mr. Johnston, for CSC, to approve the in-person opening schedule at the elementary level as proposed in the Roadmap and a hybrid plan as proposed in the Roadmap for the middle school. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye; Johnston, aye; Booth, aye. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for CCSC, seconded by Ms. Wilson, for CCSC, to approve the reopening plan for hybrid learning at CCHS as outlined in the Roadmap to Reopening report. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye; Booth, aye; Johnston, aye.

#### VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. Executive Session. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, that the Concord School Committee and Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee will enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and not return to Open Session. The motion passed by roll call: Wilson, aye; Rainey, aye (for both), Booth, aye (for both); Johnson, aye (for both) and Open Session adjourned at 6:50 PM.

#### IX. ADIOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to adjourn Executive Session. The motion passed by roll call and Executive Session adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 9.29.20

# Abbreviations:

**CCHS** Concord-Carlisle High School

Concord-Carlisle Regional School District **CCRSD** 

CCSC Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee

**CCTA** Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association

CMS Concord Middle School CPS Concord Public Schools **CSC** Concord School Committee FTE

Full Time Employee

Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity **METCO** Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association MIAA

Minuteman Media Network MMN

SC School Committee

**SEPAC** Special Education Parent Advisory Council